Docket No. 405507/0051 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FAX DECEIVED

Applicants: Noboru Asauchi

Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 09/893,685

Examiner: King Y. Pool AR 1 2007

Filed: June 29, 2001

OFFICE OF PENTIONS

ACCESS TO PRINTING MATERIAL CONTAINER

Date: March 19, 2007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PETITIONS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent).

The following checked sections apply to this Information Disclosure Statement: In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii) as revised at 69 Fed. Reg. 56481 (September 21, 2004), copies of the cited U.S. patent application publication(s) and/or U.S. patent(s) have not been submitted. The cited reference(s) were called to Applicant'(s) attention in a counterpart foreign patent application. A copy of the official communication in that counterpart foreign patent application citing the reference(s) is submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of the cited art. At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so English abstracts of those references (that reference) are provided, if available. At least some of the cited references are not (or the cited reference is not) in English, and so machine English translations of those references (that reference) are provided, where available.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under Sec. 1.53(d), (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in Sec. 1.491 in an international application, (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Accordingly, neither a fee nor Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is due.

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U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/893,685 Information Disclosure Statement Filed March 19, 2007

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of any final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and so is accompanied one of:					
(1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; or					
(2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.					
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either (1) on or after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or (2) on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:					
(1) A Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), which follows; and					
(2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), authorization for which follows.					
Fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)					
The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (\$180) to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.					
Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)					
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or					

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in Sec. 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

* Additional Comments

Applicant(s) have the following additional comments:

The cited reference was called to Applicant's attention in the corresponding Japanese patent application. Also, since JP 2000-158665, already is of record in this case, was cited in that corresponding Japanese patent application, that reference has not been cited again.

There are no English-language counterparts to this reference. Although an English abstract obtained from the Japanese Patent Office has been provided, no machine English translation of the reference is available.

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/893,685 Information Disclosure Statement Filed March 19, 2007

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A and/or B, PTO-1449, or equivalent) be returned to the undersigned indicating that such information has been considered.

Other than any fees mentioned above, no fees are believed to be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which are deemed to be now or hereafter due in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant'(s) attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Schaeffer Reg. No. 32,716

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FORM PTO 1449 (ATTY DOCKET NO. 405507/0051			APPLICATION NO. 09/893,685		
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED									

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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